

DR. KINGSBURY'S LETTER

There are many novelists who write in English who have adopted the French ideas and taste, and try in their books to see how far they can venture without entirely abandoning every principle of morality and openly favoring every description that can awaken defecated desires and ignoble impulses. Many of them are utterly coarse, shameless, most foul and prostituting.

Thomas Hardy is probably the greatest living English novelist, now that George Meredith has ended his earthly career forever, having quite recently passed beyond "this sad vale of tears." Hardy, I do not think, has any rival now in Great Britain or the United States, or France and Germany as a novelist. He is beyond all fair questioning a great genius in fiction. He has a large sin to answer for in debauching his superb genius, and lending himself to the creating of two of the most reprehensible, vulgar, obscene, debauched, lascivious novels in all English literature. I believe that a coarse, obscene, vicious book that is evil in purpose, intending not only should be avoided as you would avoid a pest-house or prison of villains, but should be banished under law as utterly vicious and criminalizing. There should be no compromise with criminality and devilishness of this kind. A man of sound morals cannot afford to tamper with such vice and immorality, nor can he tamper with a robber tariff. A book of such putridity and lowness should be avoided, rejected, condemned out and out by sound, healthful public sentiment. There should be no possible compromise with badness and corruption in either literature or politics. There are writers who wish readers not to discard novels altogether that are not bad in parts. If there is poison in one page give it the go-by, and let the devil have his own. All unsoundness, uncleanness, vicious, corrupting displays should be avoided, spit upon. Do not be misled by plausible, appreciative essayists of the Cable type who once wrote that "a page is not necessarily unclean because it deals with unclean things." But why stir a muck-heap? why touch "unclean things?" But it is just to him to add that he writes in commendation of "a genuinely unclean page—a page which however subtly, gives ugliness the victory over beauty in our own souls—should not blind us to the moral baseness which, after all, makes it, in its last analysis, bad art, no matter how noble the book, as a whole, in which it may be found."

A sentence may be loaded with such dynamite that shall prove destructive to the taste and happiness of a reader, or worse still may secure the loss of a precious soul, the complete blasting of a life. The rift in the lute however tiny robs the instrument of its music, destroys its most thrilling and fascinating charms. A poem may be the most consummate in the perfection of its technique, in the melody of its members, and it may rise high in "the heaven of invention," even, but let there be the suggestion of lust, the faintest hint of grossness, the faintest injection of sewer gas, and it is false to art, false to morality, false to humanity. I read some time ago the following in the New York Evening Post, that so long has held the highest place in regard to literature in the newspaper world, which is too germane and forceful to be overlooked now:

"What we want of him (the artist) is, not an inventory, but an artistic rendering and impression of certain selected facts. To us the idea is absurd that there is such a thing as a floating artistic talent, perfectly indifferent to its material and able to wreak itself upon the beastly and the blackguardly, as well as upon the beautiful. It is sometimes said that anything handled in an artistic way becomes beautiful in the process. But how can handling make the hideous attractive? If it does, or seems to do so, what becomes of our severe love of 'the truth'?"

I saw it mentioned that Robeson county was the most extensive in area of all North Carolina counties. It was mentioned that from northwest to northeast it was sixty miles in length. It was also mentioned that it covered one-fiftieth part of the entire State. I think that Halifax county in length is quite fifty miles—from about Palmyra to the end of the section that extends north of the town of Halifax to the extreme limit. It may be longer in another direction—from near Palmyra to the Warren line. Before Vance county was erected at the expense of Granville that county was the third largest, I think in the State. At any rate it was more than forty miles I think in length, and almost as broad. In 1870, a man on horseback could have ridden in almost a straight line from Oxford to the northern border without verging much from a direct line through the forests. It is not so now, I suppose. There was another thing about Granville then: It produced the highest selling tobacco in all the United States. I am not guessing, but I write from something of accurate knowledge. In

or about 1869 to 1875 the finest quality of tobacco grown in Granville sold from \$60 to more than \$100 per hundred pounds or one dollar a pound. I know that about 1870-72 the finest tobacco sold in Richmond, Va., for \$80 per hundred and upward for the leaf was grown in Granville. I remember well that an old friend of mine living not very distant from the Tally Ho section, sold a part of one of his crops for over \$100 average per 100 pounds, the prices for the lowest being \$87 per hundred and for the highest \$112 per hundred, the average being \$108 per hundred pounds. Somebody, or some conspiracy or some trust or something else has spoiled all such fun now, and it reads like a broad joke to write of it in these decadent, selfish times. My recollection is that some thirty years ago there were about forty-three tobacco factories in Granville county. Are there now so many as five or two? If they are gone, what has swept them off the earth? The curse of America now is a high robber tariff tax that creates and fosters the devouring trusts.

CAPT. J. G. RONEY EXPLAINS WHY TOBACCO WAS SHIPPED.

Denies That He Had Orders to Ship So It Could Escape Taxation.

(Special to News and Observer.)
Wilson, N. C., July 9.—Captain J. G. Roney, the Wilson manager of the American Tobacco Company, says the publication of the article in the *News and Observer* yesterday, has a tendency to do the company he represents, an injustice when it intimates that the tobacco was shipped away from Wilson to evade paying tax on same; that the American Tobacco Company (with the exception of a few years since storing in Wilson) has paid more tax to State, county and town than all of the other tobacco interests combined; that instead of Wilson and Wilson county losing about \$3,000 annually that the State, county and town tax amounts to from \$4,000 to \$6,000 annually; says that he was not instructed to have the tobacco in transit on the first day of June to evade taxation, as intimated above.

The amount of leaf tobacco shipped from Wilson by the American Tobacco Company from January 6, 1909, to April 14, 1909, was 5,468 hogsheads, or about 6,000,000 pounds.

What the Times Says.

Referring to the statement of Capt. Roney the *Times* says:

"With reference to the amount of tobacco given in for taxation by the company the following will prove of interest:
"In 1905 \$216,080.
"In 1906 none.
"In 1907 \$56,925.
"In 1908 \$178,650.
"In 1909, none.

"We asked the Captain if tobacco in transit on the first day of June was given in at its destination. He replied that he thought so, but was not absolutely sure of it.
"We desire to say that since the city and county have felt they were compelled to increase the tax rate we have spent all the time we could spare from our other duties making investigations as to the necessity for this action. Realizing that the revenue from the dispensary was suddenly taken away and in view of the public improvements, both in the town and township and the increased revenue demanded in some school districts of the county, the increase in the rate seemed justified, though naturally we are opposed to an increase if it can possibly be avoided. So, while making these investigations our attention was called to the fact that there would be some \$3,000 decrease of revenue by reason of the shipment away of tobacco that last year was valued at \$178,650.

"The further information was secured from what we deemed as a reliable source that the bulk of this tobacco left here the latter part of May, and naturally we assumed it was sent away by the company in order to evade taxation."

It would seem to be in order for the Wilson authorities to ascertain whether the tobacco was listed for taxation in Durham. Capt. Roney should furnish that information for his own protection. If it did not reach there in time to be taxed, then the Wilson authorities should put it on the tax-books and let this matter be settled in the courts.

President Helps Orphans.

Hundreds of orphans have been helped by the President of the Industrial and Orphans' Home at Macon, Ga., who writes: "We have used Electric Bitters in this institution for nine years. It has proved a most excellent medicine for Stomach, Liver and Kidney troubles. We regard it as one of the best family medicines on earth." It invigorates the vital organs, purifies the blood, aids digestion, creates appetite. To strengthen and build up thin, pale weak children or run-down people it has no equal. Best for female complaints. Only 50c at all druggists.

HOW TO PROTECT FRUIT TREES, ETC.

The Best Sprays and Washes and Where to Obtain Them Suggested by Mr. Geo. E. Woodruff.

As this is a time of the year when bugs and beetles and all other kinds of pests play havoc with the roses, the fruit trees, the myrtles and the like, Mr. Geo. E. Woodruff, of Dilworth, the well-known nursery man makes a suggestion as to remedies and where to get them. Said he the *Charlotte News*:

"It seems at this present age we are more troubled than formerly with diseases, blights, etc., of the various different kinds of fruit trees, roses, plants, vines, trees, etc., and in fact all kinds of vegetation. But we have remedies, by which, if people will use them, we can destroy these troubles with little expense and work and in the interest of those who love fruits, flowers, etc. I will give some suggestions:

"Beginning the first week in February, all fruit trees, grapes, etc., should be sprayed or washed with whale-oil soap, Bordeaux mixture, or kerosene emulsion. These remedies can be got out of the North Carolina Bulletin, Raleigh, by simply sending them your name on a postal. They are glad to send out this information. The simplest thing and a good one, is the whale oil soap; that can be got at Burwell & Dunn's drug store, and can be used on anything at all seasons, by making a wash and applying with brush or rag, using a piece of soap the size of a hickory nut to one gallon of warm water; dissolve well and make fresh for each application. The North Carolina Bulletin describes all the various diseases, etc., in full, and tells you which is the best remedy for each disease, and how and when to use the remedy."

WEALTH AND THE HEN.

Very Easy to Figure Out Millions That Never Materialize.

(New York Tribune.)

Without going too carefully into statistics, it is safe to say that out of every 100 adults about 99 have had, at one time or another, a more or less definite notion of going into poultry raising as the surest means of acquiring wealth quickly and easily. With most persons, of course, these imaginings never get beyond the hopeful stage, and to this is due, no doubt, the persistence of the cheerful fiction that the laying of golden eggs is the delight of the barnyard fowl. A careful canvass of the list of millionaires in New York fails, however, to reveal one who made his first hundred thousand in the operation of a "chicken ranch," although several, after reaching the seven-figure class, have gone into the raising of chickens and conducted their operations along that line with about the profit shown by their automobiles and yachts. Nothing is easier than to sit down and figure how many hundred per cent. a year may be realized on biddy if, after being purchased in the open market for 50 cents, she conscientiously lays her owner one egg a day, worth on an average the year round 2 cents. Not having the holiday habit, and with no scruples against working on Sunday, she may be expected to pay for herself about once a month. Figuring from these premises, it appears that the profits on an investment of a few thousand dollars would make the yield from a corner in the wheat market look commonplace; and, inasmuch as every one knows some one who read in the paper about a man who made a large fortune out of the chicken business, it is perhaps to be wondered at that the number of poultry raisers does not increase at the rate of several million a year.

Although the 124 years of the *Augusta Chronicle* should have brought it much wisdom, it fell into the error of assuming that poultry raising offers a large and profitable field for the activities of the inhabitants of its section. Even aside from the handicap under which raisers of chickens in the vicinity of a large colored population are generally believed to labor, it well for the hopeful would-be poultryman to bear in mind that the hen is a stubborn fowl, who keeps her eyes on the market reports and resolutely refuses to lay more than one egg a week when the price is high, doing her best work only when the price goes under 20 cents a dozen.

GET A GOOD HORSESHOER.

It is absolutely essential for the horsehoer to thoroughly understand the anatomy and physical laws as well as the mechanical rules of the horse's foot, for most all ailments to which horses' feet are subject come under his direct supervision.

He is often called upon to treat foot disorders and should equip himself with sufficient knowledge of the subject before attempting to remedy such ailments.

Corns seem to be one of the most obstinate cases that come under the observation of the horsehoer.

Some authorities claim that these corns resemble the corns on the human foot, but they are misled on account of the cause and location being generally the same.

It is a misapplied term when connected with the foot of the horse.

The discoloration which appears between the bar and wall is a deposit of blood after a rupture of the blood

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vessels which form such a complex network around the foot. This part of the foot has to do more than its share of work. Corns are chiefly found on the inside of the foot because of the habit of fitting the shoes closer to the center of the frog than the outside, thus throwing the work on the inside heel.

Another error is making shoes right and left. Why should this be done when there is no distinction in the anatomy? The foot has as many points of observation as a marine compass and each point must be rigidly observed if we wish to be successful in manipulating the ailments of the foot.

The shoe must be an equal distance from the center of the frog in order to balance the foot.

If this cannot be done by nature, mechanical rules must be followed.

Not Like 1889.

(Tarboro Southerner.)

It is infrequent to hear farmers say that the crops this year are like they were in 1889, when the shortest crop was made, yet there is nothing to substantiate such assertions. June, 1889 was a dry one, that is the rainfall below the average. The excessive rains of July, August and September followed by a unusually early frost caused the very short crop.

In August, good farmers, as the late Bofiver Bradley said, the outlook for a large crop was good, never better.

Those who remember the cotton that year will call to mind that the bolls were the smallest ever known, showing that they had started after the rain let up. Had frost been a month later these bolls would have grown full size and a good crop would have been gathered.

Very light soil have been damaged most seriously by the heavy June rains this year, but unless we have this month and the next two, excessively wet, there can be no repetition of 1889.

Grass, unless it results from neglect in cultivation, does not indicate a short crop.

IN THE HEN YARD.

Professor Rice of the Cornell station says hopper feeding saves labor, guards against under-feeding and avoids crowding, which is likely to occur when considerable numbers are fed a wet mash.

If a farmer's wife does not have success with her incubator it is pretty sure that the fault lies with the operator and not with the machine.

Guineas make excellent broilers and bring very high prices.

No reason to keep an unprofitable hen any more than there is to keep an unprofitable cow.

When you receive fancy eggs from a distant dealer let them stand twenty-four hours before setting.

As a rule pure bred hens will produce the best profit.

A poorly ventilated hen house will lessen the egg supply.

Kerosene is the best friend the hen has, provided it is used liberally on every inside part of the hen house.

Some high bred roosters are so unselfish that they give all of their food to the hens and go half starved themselves. In such cases they should be fed separately.

Never feed fowls on the ground. A clean board or trough is much better in every way.

It is downright cruelty to confine the fowls without providing them with sand and other grit.

A flock of fine birds can be built up by selection, just as improvements in other live stock is made.

Unless a sick fowl is a very valuable one the best and cheapest cure is the ax.

A VINE PROTECTOR.

This is for use in growing young peas, beans, tomatoes or any other such new, tender plants needing some kind of support. The frame is light and has hinges for packing away when the season is over. It is strung with wire and is driven into the ground, the ends of the legs being pointed. Furthermore it is braced by a wire and staples at each end.

Who is always prying has a dangerous life.—Spanish.